



FEDERAL RETIREMENT THRIFT INVESTMENT BOARD  
77 K Street, NE Washington, DC 20002

September 5, 2019

The Honorable Marco Rubio  
U.S. Senator  
284 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen  
U.S. Senator  
506 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Rubio and Shaheen:

Thank you for your letter of August 26 regarding the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board's (FRTIB) plan for the Thrift Savings Plan's (TSP) International (I) Fund. We recognize your concern about the FRTIB's decision making process that led to the decision to shift the I Fund Index from the MSCI EAFE (Europe, Australasia, Far East) Index to the MSCI All Country World ex-U.S. Investable Market Index (ACWI ex-U.S. IMI).

This is a very important issue and one that the Board Members take very seriously. The Board made its decision regarding the I Fund benchmark index almost two years ago. The delay in implementation is due to the procurement process attendant with re-competing our Fund management contract. The implementation of the new benchmark is currently scheduled for mid-2020.

We are taking this opportunity to consider all relevant information to ensure we reach a prudent decision. Therefore, we have commissioned an updated review of the I Fund benchmark index from an investment consultant. That report will be reviewed by the Board at its October 21, 2019, Board meeting.

Again, we appreciate your thoughtful and detailed letter on this important matter and I look forward to providing you with the Board's formal response.

Sincerely,

*Michael D. Kennedy*

Michael Kennedy  
Chairman